

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

AUGUST 3, 2000

IN RE:)	
)	
TARIFF FILING BY BELL SOUTH)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.,)	DOCKET NO.
TO REDUCE GROUPING RATES)	00-00041
IN RATE GROUP 5 AND IMPLEMENT)	
A 3 PERCENT LATE PAYMENT CHARGE)	

**ORDER RE-SUSPENDING TARIFF AND REMANDING
PRE-HEARING OFFICER'S SECOND REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

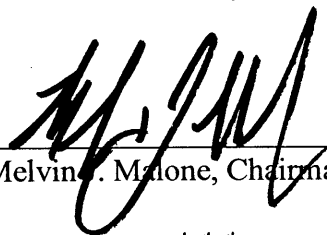
This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("Authority") at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on June 6, 2000, upon the consideration of the *Second Report and Recommendation of the Pre-Hearing Officer* ("Second Report") filed on May 26, 2000. On May 31, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division ("CAD") filed an *Objection to Report and Recommendation of Hearing Officer* ("CAD's Objection"). On June 2, 2000, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") filed a *Response of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to the Consumer Advocate Division's "Objection to Report and Recommendation of Hearing Officer"* ("BellSouth's Response to CAD's Objection").

At the June 6th Authority Conference, the CAD requested the opportunity to reply to BellSouth's Response to CAD's Objection and made an oral motion to continue the consideration of the Second Report until after filing such a reply. After reviewing the Second Report as well as the filings of the parties and hearing the parties' arguments during the June 6th Conference, a majority of the Directors of the Authority granted the CAD's request to file a reply

and the motion to continue.¹ The Directors then remanded to the Pre-Hearing Officer the determination of the CAD's Objection, BellSouth's Response to CAD's Objection, and any subsequent reply to be filed by the CAD no later than 12:00 Noon on June 8, 2000. The Pre-Hearing Officer was specifically directed to memorialize such determination in an "initial order," to be presented to the Authority for further action. The Directors then re-suspended BellSouth's tariff an additional thirty (30) days.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. BellSouth's tariff is re-suspended for thirty (30) days, through July 20, 2000;
2. The Consumer Advocate Division's oral motion to continue and its request for the opportunity to file a reply to BellSouth's response are granted;
3. This matter is remanded to the Pre-Hearing Officer for initial determination of the Consumer Advocate Division's objection to the Second Report and Recommendation; and
4. A petition for reconsideration may be filed with the Authority within fifteen (15) days of the entry of this Order.


Melvin J. Malone, Chairman

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H. Lynn Greer, Jr. Director


Sara Kyle, Director

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary

* * * Director Greer did not vote with the majority.

¹ Director Greer voted to approve the Pre-Hearing Officer's Second Report and against the CAD's motion.